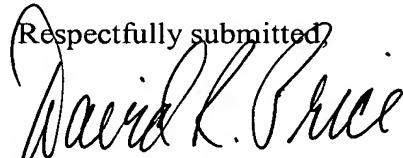


**Remarks**

This preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from the claims. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of this amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee.

If a conference call would be useful in resolving issues arising from the filing of this communication, please contact the undersigned at the below-noted number.

Respectfully submitted  
  
David R. Price  
Reg. No. 31,557

Docket No. 081276-1030-00

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